

EHS Headlines

February 2000

Placing Clients First in Environment, Health and Safety

January OHS Act Fines Top One-Quarter Mil

On January 11th, B. Phillips Co. (1987) Limited of Gormley was fined \$85,000 for: 1. Failing to ensure that a scaffold platform was constructed to support all loads and forces to which it was likely to be subjected, as required by Section 134(1) of the Construction Projects Regulation; and 2. Failing to ensure that workers wore a fall arrest system, as required by Section 26(3)(b) by the Construction Projects Regulations. Two workers fell about 25 feet when a platform they were constructing collapsed, resulting in a broken foot, ankle and leg for one worker, and a broken ankle for the other worker.

On January 17th, The Hunter Group Ltd. of Aurora was fined \$43,000 for failing to ensure the exit door from the laboratory was maintained free of obstructions, as required by Section 123 of the Regulation for Industrial Establishments, contrary to Section 25(1)(c) of the Act. Two employees suffered burns to their face and arms when an explosion occurred in a laboratory oven being used to heat test four cans of spray paint.

On January 25th, Westinghouse Canada Inc. was fined \$100,000 for failing to take the reasonable precaution of providing workers with a with a drawing showing the location of an electrical conduit in an area where they were drilling (Section 25(2)(h), OHS Act). Two workers installing new electrical breakers suffered burns as a result of an explosion and fire caused by a drill bit coming into contact with a buried live electrical wire. The accident occurred at the Smoky Falls Generating Station in the District of Cochrane, which is owned by Ontario Hydro. Westinghouse was the general contractor for an on-site project. The injured workers were employed by Comstock, a subcontractor to Westinghouse. Comstock also faces charges in relation to this incident.

With the addition of the victim surcharge tax, these three fines total \$273,600.

Upcoming Courses

February 10 + 11: Hamilton - Joint Health and Safety Certification
February 24 + 25: Toronto - Joint Health and Safety Certification
March 7 + 8: Ottawa - Joint Health and Safety Certification
March 14 + 15: Toronto - Joint Health and Safety Certification
March 16 + 17: Kingston - Joint Health and Safety Certification
March 20: Toronto - Pre-Development Review
March 21 + 22: London - Competent Person

NEW COURSE

The REA Intensive Occupational Hygiene Short Course is scheduled to be held in Toronto on May 31 to June 2, 2000.

MANY NEW COURSES AVAILABLE FOR Y2K.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.rea.ca or www.rea4ehs.com



Resource Environmental Associates

Environmental Health and Safety Consulting
Project Management and Engineering

Environmental Consultants
Professional Engineers
Certified Industrial Hygienists
Certified Safety Professionals
Environmental Project Management
Asbestos Abatement
PCB Services
Indoor Air Quality
Biohazard Remediation
Industrial Process Safety
Regulatory Affairs
Management System Development
Environmental Site Assessments
Health and Safety
Training and Education

John Murphy BSc MSc MBA ROH CIH
Gyan Rajhans BSc(Eng) MSc(Eng) ROH CIH PEng
Paul Bozek BSc MEng MBA ROH CIH PEng
Robert Stoyanoff BTECH CChem MBA CIH
Nancy Wilk HBSc MSc CIH
Alex Safronsky BEng MASC
John Howse
Elsa Cabral BSc MSc IHIT
Barbara Menard BSc MSc IHIT
Lisa McMurray BSc MSc
Anna Chang BSc MSc
Jennifer Richardson BSc MSc

TORONTO OFFICE
111 Gordon Baker Road, Suite 700
Toronto, Ontario M2H 3R1
(416) 495-1314 Fax (416) 495-9211

OTTAWA OFFICE
440 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7X6
(613) 782-3104 Fax (613) 782-3105

Toll Free: 1-888-rea-4-ehs
Internet: consultants@rea4ehs.com
<http://www.rea4ehs.com>

ANNOUNCEMENT: Staff Appointment

We are pleased and honoured to announce that effective immediately, Gyan S. Rajhans, B.Sc.(Eng), M.Sc.(Eng), R.O.H., C.I.H., P.Eng., joins the firm as Scientific Counsel and Principal Consultant.

Gyan is an international leader in the occupational hygiene profession, and has had an exceptionally distinguished career in occupational health and safety. Over the past three decades he has served the Ontario Ministry of Labour in a variety of capacities, including Chief Occupational Hygienist, Chief Engineer, Principal Occupational Health Advisor, and as a District Head. During this period, Gyan has made a variety of contributions to occupational hygiene through service to the profession's most prestigious organizations. Most recently, Gyan was Chairman of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH), an organization best known for its international leadership in the establishment of occupational exposure limits, and for the development of scientific and engineering knowledge for the protection of health and safety in the workplace. Gyan has also been a Director for the American Board of Industrial Hygiene, which qualifies professional occupational hygienists around the world through examination and conferring of the Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) designation.

He will be based in our Toronto office.